

AppDev Studio® Release 2.0

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ABSTRACT

Version 2 of AppDev Studio is shipping! What is AppDev Studio you ask? AppDev Studio provides a single interface for the development of thin- and power-client business intelligence applications. It is the first suite of application development products tailored specifically for developing information delivery applications. It draws upon the proven strengths of SAS software, including an open architecture for developing solutions on every major Web standard on both the server and the client side.

This presentation will highlight many of the enhancements that have been made to this release of the software with live demonstrations of new features available in webAF® and webEIS™, two of the components that make up the AppDev Studio bundle.

A copy of the finished paper can be found under the Reference link on the AppDev Studio® Developer's Site (www.sas.com/rnd/appdev).

INTRODUCTION

With AppDev Studio you have everything you need to create Java client applications and applets; Java server applications (servlets, JavaServer Pages and Enterprise JavaBeans); CGI/HTML applications; Active Server Pages applications and traditional full-client applications.

The remainder of this paper will focus primarily on enhancements made to two of the Java-based technologies available with AppDev Studio: webAF and webEIS software.

webAF software is an integrated visual programming environment that enables you to rapidly build Java applications, applets, servlets and classes using a drag-and-drop object-oriented interface that helps reduce the amount of programming needed. webAF software helps you build applications that are easy to manage and that instantly connect to SAS software. New features found in V2 of webAF include:

Enhancements to the development environment

- Support for Java 2 and JFC/Swing technologies
- Support for drag-and-drop building of both AWT and Swing dialogs
- Improved packaging support including JAR signing
- A new Enterprise JavaBean (EJB) Wizard
- A pure Java implementation of SASNetCopy (called JSASNetCopy) that uses JDK 1.3 extensions mechanism for downloading required extension jars

Improved server-side Java development capabilities

- Improved support for servlet projects, including full support for the Servlet 2.2/JSP 1.1 specification
- Extended the ability for JSP and Servlet execution in the built-in Apache/Tomcat Web server, or any local Web server that you specify
- Provided new "WebAppDev" project area to build J2EE-compliant Web applications that can be easily deployed
- Added Visual Builder tool for JavaServer Page (JSP) projects

- Support for JSP tag libraries (also referred to as "custom tags")

New Java components and enhanced TransformationBeans

- New "Intelligent Page" (iPage) TransformationBeans for wireless/handheld device tasks that render an appropriate markup (WML, HDML, or HTML) based on the user request
- Enhanced MDTTable TransformationBean for display of multidimensional data, including several new selector components enabling you to build complete OLAP applications
- New Chart TransformationBeans (both 2-D and multi-dimensional)
- New MenuBar TransformationBean for XHTML/DHTML output
- Other enhanced TransformationBeans include the Table and TreeView
- New components for JDBC support
- Added components for IOM support

webEIS is an OLAP (Online Analytical Processing) application for the Web. An easy-to-use, drag-and-drop environment enables business analysts to build their own Web-based documents for sharing and viewing multidimensional data structures (MDDBs). OLAP documents can be published as either Java applets or using JSP technology without having to write a single line of Java code. The applets or JSPs are generated automatically and can be viewed with a familiar browser such as Microsoft Internet Explorer or Netscape.

Version 2 enhancements for webEIS® include:

- Improvements made to both the build-time and run-time pulldown menus, dialogs and toolbars to be more intuitive and to better follow GUI standards
- Run-time toolbars can be created via a drag-and-drop GUI from a full-featured suite of defined actions
- Charting improved to include independent specification of category and group variables, as well as formatted labels
- Formats can be applied to computed values
- Styles can be applied to totals
- NUNIQUE support
- Packaging process rewritten and simplified as "Save as Applet" and includes better support for images
- Documents can be deployed as JavaServer Pages using "Save as JSP..." option

This paper will discuss these and more of the features that Version 2 of AppDev Studio brings to help you build your enterprise applications.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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